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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Jean-Francois DION et al.

CONFIRMATION NO. 8720

Serial No. 10/018,883

Filed December 26, 2001

SUPPLY DEVICE FOR SNOW GUN

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to issuance of an action on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (amended) - A Supply device for a snow gun according to claim 1, characterised in that the slide valve (14) comprises a bleed channel (59) consisting of an axial bore located at its lower section, leading via a conduit (61) into the duct (10) of the outlet port (9) to perform the bleeding, which channel (59) is open or closed according to the position of the said slide valve by means of a plug (62) extending axially from the lower end of the body.

[illegible]